

RESOLUTION

RE: THE DOVER SCHOOL BOARD RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL ON THE FUNDING OF THE JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE ATHLETIC COMPLEX PROJECT

- WHEREAS:** the City Council has requested the Dover School Board provide a recommendation regarding the funding of the Joint Building Committee (JBC) Athletic Complex project; and
- WHEREAS:** the School Board is supportive of the Athletic Complex project and acknowledges its potential benefits to the community and student athletes, but seeks to ensure the project is undertaken in the best interest of the community and in a manner that does not adversely impact the funding for core educational needs; and
- WHEREAS:** the School Board recognizes the recommended project would require a twenty percent (20%) increase in the district's current debt service, and should receive careful consideration and thorough analysis to maintain fiscal responsibility and support for the district's primary educational mission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board recommends deferring a final funding decision for the JBC Athletic Complex project until the Fiscal Year 2026 budget is settled and approved, at which time a line item for the new debt will be included in the school budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

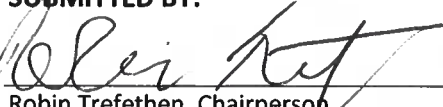
The School Board requests the JBC to continue its efforts during this additional time to address the following outstanding questions and considerations:

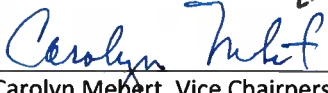
- Continue to explore the true needs of the community and the athletic complex, prioritizing safety, accessibility, and the replacement of the bleachers and track.
- Continue to examine options for a phased construction approach or alternative, less expensive options.
- Review scientific data and sources to evaluate the safety of synthetic turf versus natural grass, considering environmental impacts, watershed implications, and the future recycling or disposal of synthetic turf materials.
- Investigate scientific data on sports-related injuries associated with synthetic turf versus natural grass.
- Confirm the actual projected rental revenue to be earned from additional field space.
- Confirm and project the maintenance and replacement costs for the fields at 10-year, 20-year, and 30-year intervals.
- Explore establishing a sub-committee of community volunteers to consider fundraising opportunities to offset project costs, including grant funding, community fundraising, and/or sponsorships.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT:

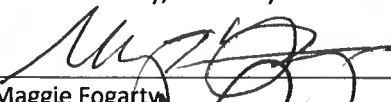
The School Board remains committed to supporting projects that enhance the district's athletic facilities and overall student experience while ensuring prudent financial management and the prioritization of educational needs.

SUBMITTED BY:

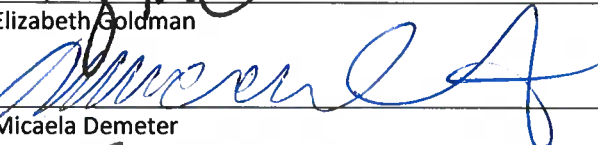

Robin Trefethen, Chairperson


Carolyn Mebert, Vice Chairperson


Michelle Clancy, Secretary


Maggie Fogarty


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January 6, 2025